The North American Species of Chariessa (Coleoptera).

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Three examples of an undescribed species of the genus *Chariessa* have been in my collection for many years. Specimens of the four species and one color variety known to occur in our fauna are now before me, and demonstrate that the nondescript is specifically distinct.

Our few species may be separated by the aid of the following table:

A. Abdomen entirely red.

b. Thorax depressed, sides narrowing anteriorly, pubescence of thorax light red; elytra broadly dilated posteriorly. Length 7–14 mm. Cal., Tex., Mex. . . . . **elegans** Horn.

bb. Thorax convex.

c. Elongate, sides of prothorax parallel anteriorly, pubescence of thorax blackish; sides of elytra nearly parallel. Length 9 mm. Cal., N. J. . . . . **dichroa** Lec.

c. c. Robust, sides of prothorax strongly narrowing anteriorly, pubescence of thorax whitish (or fulvous); elytra broadly dilated posteriorly. Length 6–8.5 mm. Tex., N. J., Mex., Nicaragua, Panama, Guatemala, Brazil . . . . . **vestita** Chevr.

A A. Abdomen black.

d. Thorax moderately convex, narrowing anteriorly; elytra black. Length 7–13 mm. Fla., Ga., N. J., D. C,, N. Y., R. I., Mass., Pa., Ohio, Wis., Ont., Ill., Iowa, Neb, Kans., Ark., Ky., Tex. . . . . **pilosa** Forst.
Elytra black, lateral and sutural margins pale, femora usually pale . . . . . *var. onusta* Say.

d d. Thorax strongly convex, parallel anteriorly: elytra dark blue. Length 11–15 mm. Texas . . . . . **texana** n. sp.
Elytra dark blue, lateral and sutural margins pale . . . . *var.*

C. vestita Chevrolat (*Brachymorphus*), Col., Mex., Cent. ii, No. 150 (1835); Klug. (*Enoplium*), Abh. Berl. Akad., 1842, p. 363; tab. 1, fig. 10; Spinola, Mon. Clérites ii, p. 88; tab. 45, fig. 2 (1844); Gorham, Biol. Cent. Amer. iii, part 2, p. 187 (1882); Laporte (*Corynetes spectabilis*) Silberman's Revue Ent. iv, p. 50, No. 1 (1836).

In this beautiful species, which has erroneously been accredited to Spinola, the elytra and prothorax are blue, densely pubescent with erect whitish hairs, on each elytron before the middle there is a large transversely oval, velvety black spot;

the head, antennae (except the club), entire ventral surface of body and the legs are red, the pubescence of the parts is red; the mandibles, antennal club, tips of tarsal appendages and the tarsal claws are black. *Vestita* is a very broad species, the width equaling half the length.

Examples from the more tropical portions of its habitat show this to be a variable species in coloration, the tendency being for the bluish portions to become obscurely reddish and the pubescence more dense. In a Guatemalan specimen in my collection the elytra are violaceous, the prothorax dull aenous with a reddish tinge, the tarsi entirely red, and the mandibles black at tip only; the five apical joints of the antennae black, the pubescence of thorax and elytra fulvous and the velvety black spots of the elytra very large and round.

C. elegans Horn, Trans. Amer. Ent. Soc. iii, p. 87 (1870); Gorham, Biol. Cent. Amer. iii, part 2, p. 346; tab. 12, fig. 23 (1885); Rivers (*Lemberti*) Zoe vi, p. 396 (1894).

This species bears a slight resemblance to *C. dichroa*, but differs from it in many respects. *Elegans* is a much broader, more depressed species. It is a deep sanguineous red (the color fading in old material to a pale red, as described by Dr. Horn), the elytra blue with metallic lustre wanting; the antennae (the basal joint excepted) and the tarsi black. The prothorax in this species is much more coarsely and densely punctured while the elytra are less coarsely punctured than in *dichroa*.

C. dichroa LeConte (*Enoplium*) Rep. Exp. and Surv. 1857, xii, p. 48.

This species may be easily recognized by its elongate form, finely punctured thorax and coarsely punctured elytra. The coloring in this species is the same as in *C. elegans*, with the following exceptions: the blue of the elytra has a sub-metallic lustre, the prothorax is more shining, the legs and antennae are entirely black, while the scutellum is red, the pubescence of the head and prothorax is blackish.

Dichroa is by far the rarest species and according to Mr. Hopping the larvae of the two species seem to be indistinguishable. Both species breed in the same log—that of *Quercus douglasii* or Sierra foot-hill oak (at Kaweah, Cal.), and as this oak does not grow much above 2000 feet, Mr. Hopping thinks

it probable that the species may in some localities breed in oaks of a different species. For this species and a fine series of *C. elegans* I am indebted to Mr. Ralph Hopping.

C. pilosa Forster (*Lampyris*), Nov. Spec. Ins. Cent. i, p. 40 (1771); Olivier (*Enoplium*), Enc. Meth. vii, p. 490 (1782); Say (*Enoplium*), Amer. Ent. iii, tab. 41, fig. 5 (1828); Klug (*Enoplium*); Abh. Berl. Akad., 1842, pp. 104 and 360 *nec.*, p. 113; Spinola (*Pelonium*), Mon. Clérites i, p. 356; tab. 34, fig. 5 (1844); LeConte (*Pelonium*), Ann. Lyc. Nat. Hist., N. Y., v, p. 32 (1849); Gorham (*Pelonium*), Trans. Ent. Soc., Lond., xxv, p. 417 (1877); Wickham, Can. Ent., xxvii, p. 252 (1895).

C. pilosa var. *onusta* Say (*Enoplium*), Amer. Ent. iii; tab. 41, fig. 1 (1828); Say (*E. marginatum* ||), Journ. Acad. Nat. Sci., Phila., iii, p. 188 (1823); LeConte (*Pelonium*), Ann. Lyc. Nat. Hist., N. Y., v, p. 32 (1849); Wickham, Can. Ent., xxvii, p. 252, fig. 20 (1895).

Chariessa pilosa and its color variety are so well known and easily recognized as to render needless the giving of any characters other than those contained in the table of species.

C. texana n. sp.

Elongate, black, thorax ferruginous, apical margin each side of middle with rounded black maculation, sometimes united forming a short, broad, transverse apical band. Head and thorax coarsely and very densely punctured, pilose with long, erect yellowish hairs. Thorax slightly longer than broad, convex, disc feebly longitudinally impressed, sides parallel anteriorly. Elytra dark blue, sides nearly parallel, convex, moderately shining, the sutural margins strongly costate, the costae smooth and broad, each elytron with four more feebly developed costae, punctuation very coarse and dense at base, less deep and coarse toward apices, humeri very prominent, impunctate. Legs densely clothed with very long semi-erect hairs. Length 11–15 mm.

Sweetwater, Nolan County, Texas. Three specimens kindly given me by Mr. Willard Wooding.

This species is most nearly allied to *C. pilosa*, from which it is distinct by the different form of the thorax and by the form of the entire insect, the elytra are more coarsely punctured and moderately shining, and it is a much larger species; the colors of thorax and elytra are also greatly different from those of *pilosa*. The variety of this species is identical with the type excepting that the elytra are very narrowly margined, the pale margin being about half as wide as in *C. pilosa* variety *onusta*.